

# Architect Explains General Color Scheme of Project

## EFFECTS ACHIEVED IN DESIGN NOTED

Regarded As Main Reason For Beauty Of Interior

(Continued from page 1)

braces a clinic, nurses' office, physician or health officer, suite, dental offices, laboratory and rest room. The health unit is located on this floor because of the relation of its records with those of the office and vice versa.

The eighth floor is devoted to storerooms for surplus records. All the main offices will have separate rooms for such records. The front and back offices will be fitted up with furniture from the old building. One of the rooms on the eighth floor is filled with ventilating apparatus.

The ninth floor—the pent-house—carries the large storage tank supplying water to the various fixtures, compressors and tanks for the temperature control of the building and a complete fresh air and recirculating ventilating system for the main courtroom. The upper floor of the pent-house is devoted exclusively to the elevator generators, motors, and control board.

During the period from January to April we worked on this set-up, presenting various schemes of each office showing the relation of room to room, eliminating waste space, revamping for added efficiency, until it was mutually agreed upon with each officer that the proposed plans were satisfactory.

### Commissioned Architect

Of course, during all these investigations and conferences the exterior design kept pace with the interior plans, with the idea that the outside of the building should be a true reflection of the interior. These plans and sketches together with costs were presented to the board of supervisors at the April session, and I was commissioned as architect.

The original building committee appointed by the board of supervisors included: Mayor J. Harry Nelson, chairman; Frank A. Hewitt, the chairman of the supervisors' board; Leonard W. Houghton, Bentley A. Major and Fred H. Moeller. Upon the death of Mr. Hewitt, W. Merrill Jewaw was elected to succeed him, and Louis Ott replaced Mr. Major, who retired from the board.

We made several trips to inspect similar projects in Midland, Flint, Detroit, and Lansing. During this time, too, a complete set of plans were drawn around the concepts of Judge Houghton's scheme with a central corridor, with stairs at the fifth avenue entrance, a building of less ground area, but several stories higher, and with the main courtroom in the east side. However, these plans, after being studied by the building committee, were abandoned in favor of our original ideas.

Finally we were advised to prepare working drawings and specifications so that building operations could be started in 60 days.

### Drawings Prepared

Working drawings, dimensioned plans and details were then prepared, indicating exactly how

## Glistens In The Sun, Beams To The Moon



Concealed in recesses of the exterior, 98 floodlights add beauty and character to the architecture of the new county building. The building will be thus illuminated only on special occasions. The floodlights have been placed close together to eliminate the possibility of "dark spots." These powerful lights will consume about a dollar's worth of electricity an hour, Joseph C. Goddeyne, architect, estimated.

every trade must execute its work.

The limestone was cut at the quarry to dimensions given on plans and elevations much the same as a great jig-saw puzzle. All ceilings were plastered on metal lath suspended from the concrete floors above.

As construction progressed steel sash were fabricated, ornamental metal, such as grilles, railing, entrance doors, aluminum spandrels, etc., were cast. Gradually shipments arrived, and the building began to form. Although they were not required for perhaps six to eight months, the mill piled up thousands of feet of baseboard, chair-rail, picture mould, doors, etc. Counters and cabinets were assembled later and finished in

accordance with samples submitted by the architect. The kind of limestone, the various colors of marble, more than a year ago to be part of the preconceived interior decorative treatment. Most of the marble chips in the floors are foreign marbles which, of

course, were ordered months in advance of actual installation. Finally in the latter part of September, 1931, all drawings, specifications and other documents were ready to advertise for bids. Due to certain legal difficulties sale of the bonds delayed immediate construction until August, 1932. However, this delay was exceedingly profitable for the county because material costs and labor were cut an additional ten percent. On the other hand, it was expensive for the architect because many requirements were added to the drawings and specifications.

### Fixtures Listed

For example, instead of stating that \$25,000 should be included in the electrical contract for lighting fixtures to be selected later, a complete list of fixtures, 52 different designs, was incorporated in the work, representing about 20 different manufacturers. By this procedure, the most appropriate designs, thoroughly in harmony with other interior details were purchased at competitive prices. This delay, too, enabled the architect to list every item of hardware for doors, cabinets, etc., instead of specifying a sum to be spent later, as is the usual practice. As a result, no "extras" were necessary due to omissions or errors in the specifications. Bids were opened Aug. 23, 1932, and contracts were awarded to local concerns.

### Color Schemes Explained

Considerable time was spent by the architect in achieving distinctive color schemes throughout. Most public buildings are decorated in one color, apparently with little or no thought behind the general plan. The result usually is uninteresting and monotonous. Realizing the importance that color plays in modern life, we prepared various color schemes far in advance and the furnishings were ordered to harmonize or lend a contrasting note.

On the ground (or basement) floor the ceilings are aluminum matching the aluminum electrical fixtures; the walls a warm gray and the dado a midnight blue. The walls repeat the color of the Napoleonic gray marble in the corridors

and the dark dados were used for practical reasons.

On the first floor a color in contrast with the Italian Travertine was chosen, a blue green with a darker green in the wainscot and ivory ceiling. Considerable green, gold and silver could then be used in the ceiling of the main corridor and this combination tied the scheme together into a harmonious and pleasing solution. Here, again, the green and aluminum fixtures play an important part.

The Exhibition room or the second floor is done in a similar tone—French gray oak, monks cloth walls and ceilings tinted a very light blue. The glass in the fixtures was ordered to assist the scheme.

The Veterans, and Historical Society rooms are apple green with brilliant green wainscot and stencil around the windows.

### Floored With Flagstone

The supervisors' assembly room is floored with flagstone in four shades, the desks and paneled wainscot is Gothic oak, certainly distinctively masculine in character. The walls are marked off in ashier stone effect, each stone decorated to imitate sand stone and the ceiling panels were treated in three shades of bronze. The adjoining committee rooms are executed in light buff walls, French ochre dados and just off the white ceilings. The fixtures are bronze with an iridescent fiery play of color.

The third floor front, occupied by the probate court, has walls of deep ocean blue green and dado in green metal, ceilings white and picture mould of orange. These colors give a solemn subdued effect to carry out the spirit of the work transacted in this office.

The probate court room proper is similarly decorated, with a gold and black plaster enrichment. The light fixtures hang like large bowls of frost, diffusing soft white glow.

Blue Predominant. On the third floor, also, is the stenographers' rest room, with shades of blue predominating. At the rear of the building, on this same floor, are dormitories for men and women jurors. The walls are peach, lockers walnut brown, and fixtures ivory.

On the fourth floor are all the offices pertaining to the circuit court. The courtroom proper is paneled in rich walnut—matched about the center of each panel, crowned with a bronze railing at the balcony. The walls are a bronze green, the octagonal panels of the ceiling burgundy, and the beams a rosy tint. The design

## STUDY SHAPE OF EAR AS IDENTIFICATION AID

Vermont Fingerprint Club Classifies Four Characteristics Of Human Appendage

BURLINGTON, Vt., March — (UP)—The shape of the human ear, as a handler means of identification, being undertaken by the Burlington Fingerprint club.

Of four characteristics of shape studied, one is whether the ear is generally oval, triangular, square or round.

These major classifications as to shape permit 144 combinations of characteristics.

In plaster ornament is repeated in the electrical fixtures. These were designed by Maurice Heaton, New York, a specialist in glazes. This artist has achieved stunning lighting effects.

The judge's office, the most luxurious in the building, is paneled in African Mahogany stained a dark brown, the ceiling is glazed like mottled cream; the blue and red marble and plaster frieze is highlighted in blue-purple and silver leaf. The book cases in the judge's office are glazed in leaded glass, and the floors, in the office and reception room like that in the court room, are rubber tile in alternate squares of marbled brown and black. The base of the judge's room is black and gold marble. The other rooms surrounding the court room are light yellow with white ceilings.

### Is Novel Combination

At the rear of the fourth floor is the Bar library, in light ivory, buff and tans lighted by heavy brass rimmed bowls hanging about eight feet from the ceiling. The men and women jury rooms in cool green walls are just as interesting. The prosecuting attorney's suite on the fifth floor is undoubtedly the most unusual combination, a bluish-green blend of gray for ceiling, silvered-tangrines for walls, silver picture mould, floor in two-tone light red, two-tone dark red with terra-cotta, border-strip, and the tile laid in nine-by-nine diagonal squares.

The sixth floor comprises the second circuit court room and subsidiary rooms at the front, and the offices of drain commissioner, red cross and circuit court commissioner at the rear, with silver gray walls and slate gray dado. The seventh floor front, where the county school commissioner's unit is located, is in warm buff and dark tan dado. The health unit, also on this floor, is rose and black, and the storage rooms on the eighth floor are light gray and black.

We think the color achievement to be one of the outstanding features of the building.

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JOSEPH C. GODDEYNE

## Inventor Works 12 Years On Auto Chain Device

FAIRMONT, W. Va., March — (UP)—The 12 years that D. E. Thomas has spent in perfecting a device to attach automobile chains while the vehicle is moving have almost deprived him of vision enough to view the invention.

The aged Fairmont inventor, continuing his work despite failing eyesight during the past four years, is now almost blind. The completed device, which it is claimed attaches or removes the chain when a machine is traveling at any speed, will be exhibited soon.

## Marriage License Bought By Pennies In Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, March — (UP)—Joseph F. Maibach, 25, and his prospective bride, Bertha Schneck, 23, walked into the Pittsburgh marriage license bureau, their faces all smiles.

Maibach plunked down a pile of pennies before the astonished clerk, Bert Winters.

"What's that for?" Winters demanded.

"For the license," Maibach answered, repressing a smile.

## ATTACK IS LAUNCHED ON ILLS OF NATION

Government Officials, Research Experts Probe Unemployment Problems

CLEVELAND, March — (UP)—A frontal attack on employment and occupational problems was made by a small army of government officials, research experts and employment specialists at the National Vocational Guidance conference held here.

The implications of the new Deal regarding planned employment were voiced by William H. Stead of the United States Employment Service, Washington.

The "collectivization of industry," "the renaissance of rural life," "the re-education of the adult citizen" and "the redemption of leisure" were subjects of group conferences.

More than five dozen new dictionaries have been purchased for use in the new Bay County building.

## Part of Buffalo Herd To Be Sent Nearer Traveled Roads

YELLOWSTONE PARK, Wyo., March — (UP)—Part of the herd of 1,000 buffalo in Yellowstone Park will be transferred this year to a newly fenced range in the Tower Falls section, much closer to tourist trails, it has been announced. Heretofore the bison were concentrated in Lamar Valley, which is somewhat inaccessible to visitors.

## Poorest Relatives Will Be Picked For Will Shares

MILWAUKEE, March — (UP)—Asked to select the 10 "poorest relatives" of John G. Paul, a former Milwaukeean who died in Denver, Col., County Judge John C. Karel has promised a decision by April. Paul's will provided for division of \$5,000 among his 10 poorest relatives. A list of 59 relatives, including several babies, has been filed, with the request that the court interpret the will.

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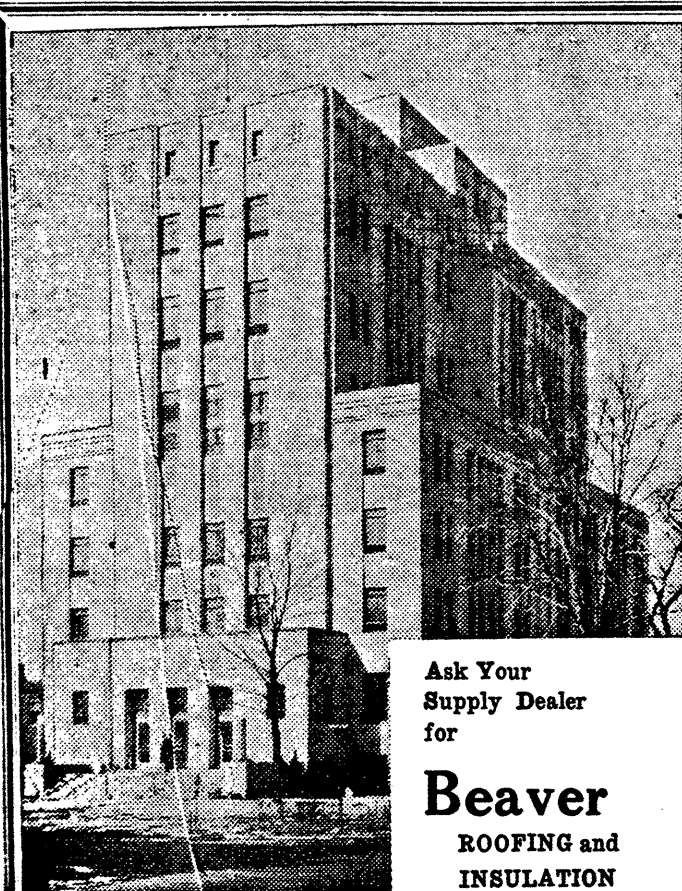
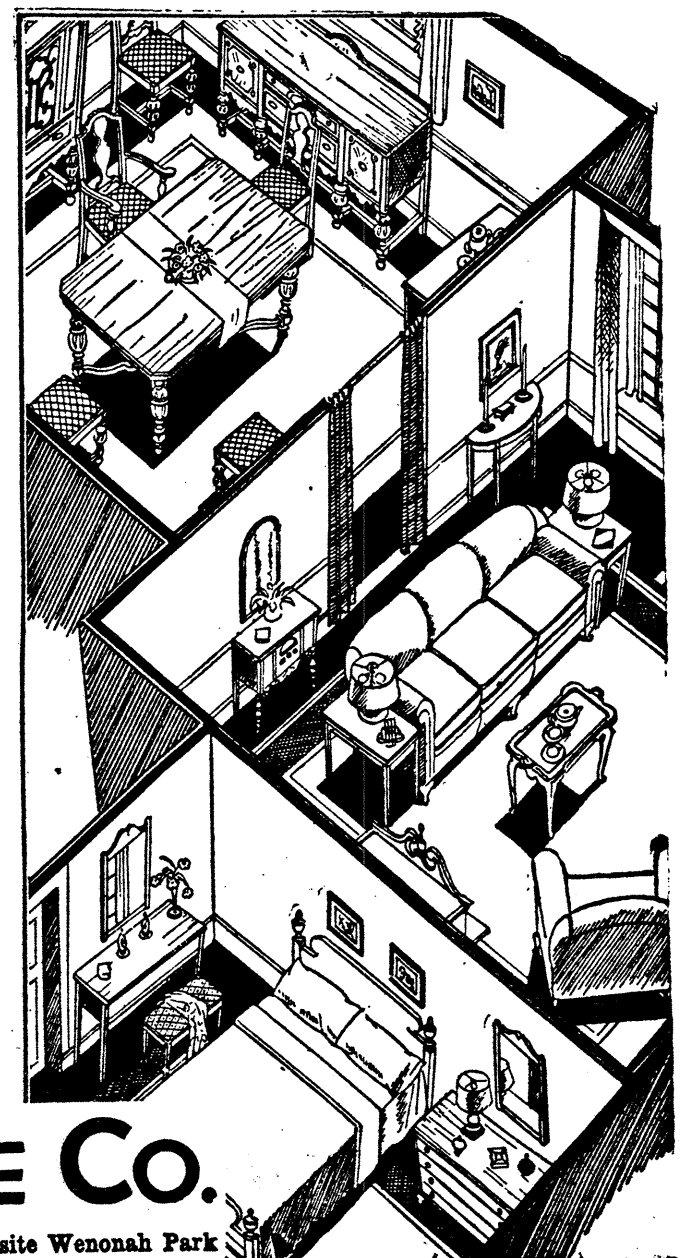
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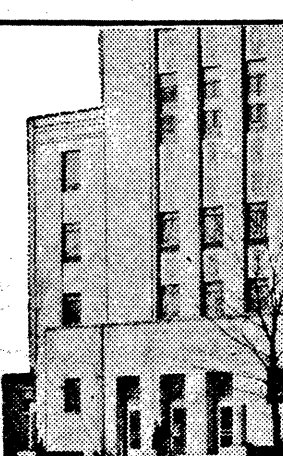
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